

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8 with the following:

The invention concerns an actuator for an electric push-button switch ~~of the type specified in the introductory clause of Claim 1.~~ Actuators of this type are used in vehicle doors or vehicle hatches. If the handle plate is actuated, the switching element is moved into a depressed position, in which the contacts in the push-button switch enter a switching position, in which they can reswitch a lock on the vehicle door or hatch. The vehicle door or hatch is then released and can be opened.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 15 with the following:

The objective of the invention is to develop a reliable, space-saving and inexpensive actuator ~~of the type specified in the introductory clause of Claim 1.~~ This objective is achieved by a construction in which the switch suspension of the push-button switch is simultaneously the handle suspension for the handle plate, which causes the unactuated handle plate to be held by the

switch suspension of the push-button switch in its outer rest position, in which the outer stops of the handle plate rest on the outer opposing stops of the housing shell. The handle plate has inner stops and the housing shell has inner opposing stops, which, when the handle plate is unsymmetrically actuated, cause the handle plate to assume an inclined position in such a way that the switching element of the push-button switch is nevertheless moved by the handle plate into its depressed effective contact position ~~the measures specified in Claim 1, which have the following special significance.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18 with the following:

Additional features and advantages of the invention are specified in the ~~dependent claims and the~~ following description and are schematically illustrated in the drawings, which show several specific embodiments of the invention.